

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (new): A non-centralized, hierarchically-arranged, multi-tiered distributed parallel computer network system incorporating software for imparting artificial intelligence to system hardware and communicatively coupled to a plurality of financial exchanges and at least one real time news source for facilitating the real-time trading of securities offered through the exchanges by an end user from an end user computer terminal, the computer network system comprising:

b1 a first plurality of computers forming a first-tier computer cluster communicatively coupled to a continuous real time raw data feed from trading floors of said plurality of financial exchanges, each of said first plurality of computers of said first-tier computer cluster configured to continuously process and filter said raw data into primed data comprehensible for human monitoring and evaluation;

a second plurality of computers forming a second-tier computer cluster hierarchically superior to said first tier computer cluster and directly communicatively coupled thereto for receiving real-time updates of the primed data generated by said first tier computer cluster, said second tier computer cluster further coupled to a continuous real-time news, data and information source, and particularly programmed to analyze and parse through said news, data and information in real time to determine portions thereof having relevance to the valuation and trading of said securities based upon the most recent primed data received from said first tier computer cluster;

a third plurality of computers forming a third-tier computer cluster hierarchically superior to said second tier computer cluster and particularly configured and arranged within said computer network system to receive real time updates of the primed data generated by said first tier computer cluster and real-time updates of the relevant news, data and information set generated by said second-tier computer cluster, said third-tier computer cluster particularly arranged and configured within said network for continuously monitoring and analyzing the primed data generated by the first-tier computer cluster, and the relevant news, data and information set generated by the second-tier computer cluster, at least one of said third plurality of computers having a strategy execution computer program installed and running thereon for comparing the primed data to end user-defined parameters in order to automatically generate one or more trading instructions, and to provide technical analysis and fundamental analysis, upon the occurrence of said primed data falling within said parameters;

a fourth plurality of computers forming a fourth-tier computer cluster hierarchically superior to said third tier computer cluster and particularly configured and arranged within said computer

network system to enable live interaction between said end user computer terminal and one or more security broker terminals, the fourth-tier computer cluster particularly arranged and configured within the network system to receive real time updates of the news, data and other information generated by the subordinate first-, second- and third-tier computer clusters, at least one of said fourth plurality of computers having a computer program installed and running thereon for proactively determining the information being tracked by said end user, customizing said news, data and other information based upon the particular information being tracked, and automatically communicating updates of said news, data and other information to said end-user computer terminal; and,

a fifth plurality of computers forming a summit-tier computer cluster hierarchically superior to said first-, second-, third- and fourth-tier computer clusters and directly communicatively coupling said fourth-tier computer cluster with said securities exchanges in a manner enabling direct execution of securities trades through said exchanges by said end user, said summit-tier computer cluster coordinating, controlling, managing and synchronizing the tasks each of the subordinate computer cluster tiers.

31 Claim 29 (new): The computer network system recited in claim 28, wherein said first-, second-, third-, fourth- and fifth-tier computer clusters cooperate to continuously scan said primed data to determine patterns of behavior or trends of data fluctuation potentially affecting the trading of said securities, said first-, second- and third-tier computer clusters continuously updating said patterns and trends and communicating said updated patterns and trends to said end-user computer terminal, the fourth- and fifth-tier computer clusters managing, controlling, synchronizing and load-balancing tasks and resources amongst the individual computers of the system.

Claim 30 (new): The computer network system recited in claim 28, wherein each one of said second- and third-tier computer clusters are further arranged and configured within said system for delegating tasks among at least one subordinate computer cluster.

Claim 31 (new): The computer network system recited in claim 28, wherein said fourth-tier computer cluster incorporates computer software programming for verifying and validating that each said trading transaction is executed in accordance with pre-established governmental securities trading guidelines.

Claim 32 (new): The computer network system recited in claim 31, wherein said fifth-tier computer cluster is arranged and configured for transmitting trading authorization for trading within predetermined parameters for a predetermined period of time from a broker to said end user computer upon receipt of an audio and/or video recorded confirmation and verification and validation that a corresponding potential trade has been verified and validated to be in accordance with said pre-established governmental securities trading guidelines.